Utah History & Facts

Utah's prehistory and recorded history are distinct and complex. This is only a brief summary of Utah's rich heritage. It includes major themes in Utah history and some of the significant events, individuals, and dates. The bibliography provides suggestions for other books to read. A glossary will help with unfamiliar words.

A Unique Setting

Utah presents an uncommon landscape with three major land formations (physiographic provinces). They are the Rocky Mountains, the Colorado Plateau, and the Basin and Range provinces. The Rocky Mountain Province take up a V-shaped section of northeastern Utah. In this area are the Uinta and Wasatch mountains. The Colorado Plateau Province lies in the east central and southeastern area of Utah.



Delicate Arch

It includes the area from the Uinta Basin south to Canyonlands. The Basin and Range Province is an area of deserts and mountain ranges. They are separated by broad valleys.

Within these three areas, Utah varies in elevation from the lowest point at Beaver Dam Wash, 2,350 feet above sea level in the south, to the highest point on Kings Peak in the Uinta Mountains, 13,528 feet above sea level. Most of Utah's cities are located between 3,000 and 7,000 feet above sea level.

In each of these areas there are different kinds of plants and animals. At 3,000 feet you will find sagebrush, Joshua trees and the horned rattlesnake. Around 4,000 feet you can look at pinons, junipers and herds of mule deer. In the higher mountains you will see quaking aspen, douglas fir, the Canada lynx and North American elk. At the very top of the mountains, past 8,000 feet, you can find alpine fir and Engleman spruce trees.

Utah's temperatures vary widely. The mountains and high valleys are cooler, while the lower elevations and southern parts of the state have higher temperatures. The highest temperature ever recorded is 1170 F on July 5, 1985, at St. George, Utah. On February 1, 1985, at Peter's Sink in Logan the temperature sank to -690 F, the lowest recorded temperature in Utah.

Precipitation in Utah varies greatly. The Great Salt Lake Desert gets an average of less than 5 inches in a year. Some places in the Wasatch Mountains get more than 60 inches in a year. The average annual rainfall is between 10 and 15 inches per year. The greatest amount of rain to fall in one hour in Utah was 5 inches in Morgan, Utah, on August 16, 1958. In fact the greatest amount to fall in two to three hours also happened in Morgan, on the same day: a total of 15 inches in three hours!

Prehistory

Utah's prehistory is as diverse as its scenic landscape, covering 10,000-12,000 years. Archaeological sites have been identified in all corners of the state. Ancient people in Utah adapted well to deserts, high mountains, badlands, and marshes.

Archaeologists call the first people living in Utah PaleoIndians. They were hunters and gatherers who sometimes hunted now-extinct mammals like the mammoth. All across Utah, PaleoIndian sites are found. These sites are very old and rare. Some PaleoIndian camps identified along the shoreline of ancient Lake Bonneville reflect PaleoIndian's use of marsh environments.

Changes started in the styles of weapons and life around 8,000 years ago. This marked the beginning of the Archaic period. During the Archaic period, people were hunters and gatherers. They were nomadic, but sometimes they settled in small villages and caves for short periods. During the Archaic period, people made a variety of baskets for collecting plants. They made many types of stone spear and dart tips that they used to hunt animals.

From 8,000 to 2,000 years ago the atlatl, used to hurl spears, helped the people hunt successfully. Danger Cave and Juke Box Cave near Wendover, Utah, are two famous sites of the PaleoIndian and Archaic time periods.



Anasazi pottery

Life began to slowly change around 2,500 years ago. Corn, beans, and squash were introduced into Utah, possibly from the south.

Archaeologists used the clues they found in caves and other places to identify two groups of American Indians in Utah: the Anasazi and the Fremont Indians. Farming changed the way Anasazi and Fremont Indians made a living. Across much of northern Utah, the Fremont farmed, but they still relied on hunting and gathering for much of their food. Further to the south, in the Four Corners area and across the

southern portion of Utah, the Anasazi relied heavily on corn, beans, and squash. The Anasazi domesticated the turkey and used it as an important source of food and raw material.

Around AD 1300, the people we call Fremont and Anasazi were no longer visible in the archaeological record. Some areas were abandoned and new cultures moved into the area. In many ways, people went back to a hunter and gatherer life or the same type of life that the people in the Arachic period lived.

Historic Indians of Utah

American Indian groups living in Utah included the Ute, Paiute, Navajo, Goshute, and Shoshone. They all had different ways of living in Utah.

The Ute, Paiute, Goshute, and Shoshone speak different but related languages from a family known as the Numic Language Family. The Navajo speak a language that is in the Athapaskan Language Family.

The Ute, Goshute, Paiute, and Shoshone lived similar lives. They hunted, fished, and gathered wild plant foods. The pinyon nut was especially important to all of them. These groups now live on reservations in Utah, Colorado, Nevada, and Idaho although prior to non-Indian settlement, they ranged all across the Great Basin and Intermountain West. Navajos herded sheep, goats, and cattle.

The state of Utah is named after the Ute tribe. The Ute once lived over much of Utah and all of western Colorado. They ranged well onto the Great Plains of eastern Colorado into Nebraska and south into New Mexico. In historic times, there were at least 11 different bands of the Ute tribe. Each band claimed their own territory but membership in a band was fluid. The Ute lived by hunting, fishing, gathering, and trading with other American Indian groups in the area. The lived in brush structures and cone-shaped tipis made from animal skins. During the late 1800s, the Ute lost most of their lands and were restricted to reservations in southern Colorado and northeastern Utah.

The Paiute are divided into two groups: the Northern Paiute and the Southern Paiute. The Northern Paiute lived in what is now Oregon, California, and Nevada. The Southern Paiute lived in southern Utah, southern Nevada, and northern Arizona. Hunting and gathering with some fishing was the main source of food. A Southern Paiute house might be made of brush and poles stacked in a cone-shape, called wickiups. Baskets and pottery were made by the Southern Paiute. There are Paiute reservations in southern Utah and in Nevada.



Paiute wickiups

The western deserts of Utah is the home of the Goshute.



Shoshone Indians

They are related to

the western Shoshone groups and, through intermarriage, to the Ute. The Goshute lived in the Great Basin as hunters and gatherers in cone-shaped wickiups and similar structures. Two reservations in western Utah are now the home of the Goshute.

Idaho, eastern Oregon, and northern Utah was the home of the Northern Shoshone. The Eastern Shoshone lived across western Wyoming, northeastern Utah, and northwestern Colorado. The Shoshone hunted, gathered, and fished. Bison hunting was especially important.

Herding sheep and goats was, and still is, the mainstay of many Navajo families. Southern Utah, northern Arizona, and northern New Mexico is the land of the Navajo; the largest American Indian tribe in the United States. Some people believe the Navajo migrated south into their current homeland sometime after AD 1300 where they lived as hunters and gatherers. The Navajos, however, believe that they always have lived in the Four Corners region.

At some point, the Navajo acquired sheep from the Spanish, and they learned to weave from the Hopi. The hogan is the traditional Navajo house.



Activity:
How would your life be
different if you were a Ute
instead of a Navajo?



Ute Indians Navajo woman and child

Explorers, Trappers, and Traders

Mexicans and Spaniards were the first known non-Indians to enter what is now the state of Utah. The discovery and translation of the journals of Juan Maria Antonia Rivera tell that he led at least two expeditions into the area of present-day Utah in 1765. He and his companions were the first non-Indians to see the Utah portion of the Rio del Tizon (Colorado River). Twelve years later, in July 1776, just as the American Revolution was beginning in the east, a 10 man exploration team left Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was under the leadership of two Franciscan priests, Fathers Francisco Atanasio Dominguez and Silvestre Velez de Escalante and known today as the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition. They were looking for a route between Santa Fe (in present-day New Mexico) and Monterey, California. They entered Utah from the east near the present town of Jensen, Utah, around September 11, 1776. The group crossed the Wasatch Mountains by way of Diamond Fork and Spanish Fork canyons. They visited with Yuta (Ute) Indians camped near Utah Lake. Early snows forced them to give up their attempt to reach Monterey, California. Traveling south, they crossed the dangerous Colorado River on November 7, 1776. They returned to Santa Fe on January 2, 1777.

The expedition had several important members but two stand out: Don Bernardo Miera y Pacheco and a twelve-year-old Ute American Indian boy called Joaquin. Don Bernardo Miera y Pacheco drew an important map of the area. Even though it was not accurate, it was the first of its kind. Joaquin, the only Utah native in the group, aided the expedition during their 1,700-mile trip.

Father Escalante kept a detailed diary. In it he described plant and animal life; geography; and the appearance, dress, and foods of the Ute and Paiute Indians. The Rivera journals, the Escalante diary, and Miera?s map are the first documents in Utah history.

Although there was no immediate follow-up to the historic Dominguez-Escalante expedition, traders continued to be interested in establishing new routes to California. By the early 1800s trade between Santa Fe and American Indians in Utah was well established. From 1807 to 1840 mountain men explored vast areas of the American West. Their knowledge was passed on to future settlers.

In the 1820s trappers explored most of Utah's rivers and valleys and some of the desert land. Jedediah Smith, one of the great explorers, made several significant journeys through Utah. It was his rediscovery of South Pass in Wyoming that allowed thousands of immigrants to travel west by wagon. Trapper Jim Bridger reported his sighting of the Great Salt Lake in 1824. Miles Goodyear established Fort Buenaventura on the Ogden River in 1844-1845. The explorations of other trappers including Peter Skene Ogden, Etienne Provost, John H. Weber, William H. Ashley, James P. Beckwourth, the Robidoux brothers, and Joseph R. Walker added to the knowledge of the Utah area. So did the experiences of groups like the Bartleson-Bidwell party whose wagons crossed Utah in 1841 and the Donner party which blazed a trail into the Salt Lake Valley in 1846.

In the 1840s the mountain men came into the area less and less as the beaver pelt trade declined. At the same time the United States government explorers and settlers bound for California came into Utah. John C. Fremont was one of the most famous explorers during this time. He mapped trails and described the land and plant and animal life of the Great Basin. By 1847 the Mormons arrived in the Salt Lake Valley aided by the experiences of the many people who had come before them.

Mormon Settlement



Brigham Young

Brigham Young and other Mormon leaders decided to abandon Nauvoo,

Illinois, when Joseph Smith, Jr., founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was killed at Carthage, Illinois, in June 1844. Their move to the West began February 4, 1846.

With the outbreak of the Mexican War, President James Knox Polk asked the Mormons for a battalion of men. Volunteers were recruited

and the Mormon Battalion formed. During their march of 1846-1847 from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to San Diego, California, they blazed a wagon route across the Southwest. Their pay and their later explorations helped the pioneer settlers.

In April 1847 the pioneer company of Mormons traveled from Winter Quarters, Nebraska, to Utah. The company included 143 men (including three African-American men), 3 women and 2 children. An advance party entered the Salt Lake Valley on July 22, 1847. The rest of the group entered on July 24. Planting and irrigation began immediately.



Wagon train heading west

Though survival was difficult in

the first years of settlement for the people in Utah they were better able to tame the harsh land. The Mormons had pioneered other settlements in the Midwest. Their faith stressed cooperative effort. Natural resources, including timber and water, were regarded as community property. The city was laid out according to a set plan, and building began. The church organization served as the first government.

Settlement of other areas began when possible. Bountiful, Farmington, Ogden, Tooele, Provo, and Manti were settled by 1850. The typical family of 1850 consisted of two parents in their 20s or early 30s and three children. More than half the population were farm families. The church authorities would choose a leader for each settlement. Small settlements were frequently forts with log cabins arranged in a protective square.

The Mormon village in Utah was a planned community of farmers and trades people. The village would include a main living area and farms and farm buildings on the land beyond. Life in these villages centered on the day's work and church activities. Music, dance, and drama were favorite activities of the early pioneers.

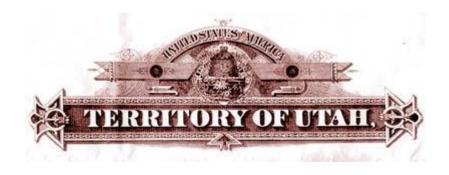
Territorial Days

Utah became part of the United States after the Mexican War, in February 1848. The Mormons formed a political government and proposed the State of Deseret (1849-1850). Congress did not admit Deseret to the Union but instead they created the Territory of Utah.

Utah Territory was a big area including most of present-day Nevada and part of Wyoming and Colorado. Utah's territorial period, 1850-1896, was marked by increased conflict with American Indians, by the immigration and settlement of non-Mormons, by economic growth, and by the development of communications and transportation.

Problems between settlers and American Indians surfaced in the 1850s and threatened settlements. Mormon leader and territorial governor Brigham Young asked the settlers, on Ute land, to avoid conflicts with American Indians. This did not work, and the Walker War between the Mormons and the Utes started in July 1853.

In the conflict many Mormons and Utes were killed. In May 1854, Brigham Young and Chief Walkara, leader of the Utes, met and agreed to stop the fighting. Still feelings of anger and resentment did not end. American Indians and Mormons settlers would fight again.



Territorial masthead with beehive decoration

Utahns had conflicts with the federal government in the late 1850s. The federal government and Mormons did not trust each other. Reports that Utahns were in rebellion led President James Buchanan to send troops under Albert Sidney Johnston to Utah in 1857. President Buchanan appointed Alfred Cumming as the new territorial governor. Many Salt Lake Valley residents temporarily moved to Utah Valley in 1858. The Mormons and the troops attained peace that spring. Johnston's troops established a military post at Camp Floyd, west of Provo. The troops remained in Utah for about three years. Governor Cumming tried to be fair to Mormons and non-Mormons. He wrote, "A community is seldom seen more marked by quiet and peaceable diligence, than that of the Mormons."

Activity:

Pretend you are either Governor Cumming or his wife Elizabeth Cumming. Write down what your first day in the Utah terriority was like. Who did you meet, what did you see, what would you feel like?

The appointment of Cumming signaled the beginning of the struggle for control of political power in the territorial period. The issue of polygamy provided a sensational topic to the rest of the United States. Federal marshals arrested polygamists, church leaders went into hiding, and the federal government seized church property. Denial of statehood by Congress continued until after Mormon church president Wilford Woodruff announced the end of polygamy in 1890.

Crossroads of the West

Mountain men and settlers had explored much of the West, but the scientific investigation of this land really began when Congress authorized exploration for railroad and wagon routes. Captain Howard Stansbury explored and mapped Great Salt Lake Valley in 1849-1850; Lieutenant Joseph C. Ives studied part of the Colorado River in 1857-1858; Lieutenant E. G. Beckwith completed a railroad survey.



John Wesley Powell

Major John Wesley Powell came in 1869 and 1871 to explore the "last frontier"-- the Green and Colorado rivers--by boat. Powell made a monumental contribution to our understanding of the arid Colorado Plateau, water resources, and the life of the area's American Indians.

Communication between east and west became more and more important between 1850 and 1870. The overland freight brought needed goods to Utah settlers. The Pony Express brought both mail and news in its short nineteen months of operation 1863-1864).

Overland telegraph lines connecting Omaha and Sacramento were completed on October 24, 1861. Brigham Young helped with this project. He planned the Deseret Telegraph to connect Salt Lake City with the outlying Mormon settlements.

Next came the railroad. In 1868 Brigham Young contracted with Union Pacific to build part of the transcontinental railroad through Echo and Weber canyons. Mormons earned more than two million dollars working on this project. Meanwhile, hundreds of Chinese worked on the Central Pacific line east from Sacramento. Finally, on May 10, 1869, workers joined the Central



Installing telegraph lines along railroad

Pacific and the Union Pacific railroad lines at Promontory Summit, Utah.



Joining of the rails

Activity:

The celebration of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific owners and workers at Promontory Summit, Utah. If you were one of the workers how would you feel on this day? Write about your feelings and thoughts on how important this day is to transportation in the west.

Mines and Minorities

The immigration and settlement of many non-Mormons began with the building of the transcontinental railroad and the development of mining. Jews were among the first non-Mormons to move into Utah. Catholics, Episcopalians, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, and others came in the 1860s and 1870s to establish schools, hospitals, and churches. They came to minister to the large number of non-Mormons who had found employment with the railroad or in the mines. These ethnic and religious groups made great contributions to Utah society.

The early settlers had explored Utah's mineral potential. Brigham Young discouraged exploitation of precious metals, favoring agriculture and light industry instead. The Mormons did quarry stone for building. Clay, lime, coal, coke, iron, and lead were also needed by the settlers. Utah's precious metal mining era dates from 1863. Ordered to Utah in 1862 to protect communication and transportation lines, Colonel Patrick Edward Connor, founder of Camp (later Fort) Douglas, encouraged his men to prospect. Many men staked claims, and by the 1870s ore was being

processed. Mines at Stockton, Ophir, Mercur, Park City, Frisco, Tintic, and Silver Reef were opened quickly after 1870. Mining brought new wealth to Utah, and those connected with the mines were mostly non-Mormons. These men and women became influential in the territory's business, politics, and social life.

Transition

In the thirty years from 1860 to 1890, Utah's population jumped from some 40,000 to more than 200,000. Most cities were along the 75 miles of the Wasatch Front area. Brigham Young and others continued to direct the settlement of remote areas of Cache, Sevier, and Sanpete valleys as well as the back valleys of the Wasatch Mountains and southern Utah. This expansion was at the expense of the American Indians. It to the Black Hawk War (1865-68), the most serious of the Utah Indian wars. After defeat in that war the federal government removed the Indians to the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, in eastern Utah.

As many as 90 percent of the total Utah population were Mormon in the late 1800s, and their way of life dominated politics, economics, and social life. Brigham Young was an important figure in the territory's life until his death in 1877. Several significant economic developments marked the 1860s to the 1890s. One was the Mormon cooperative store with the founding of Zion's Cooperative Mercantile Institution (ZCMI). Founded in 1868, it was one of American's oldest department stores (1868-2001). Another economic development was the mastery of irrigation agriculture and the development of mills, mines, and other industry. Then came the building of more schools, churches, tabernacles, theaters, and business offices. In addition there was the growth of dance, music, and drama. All these developments marked Utah's move toward statehood.

Statehood

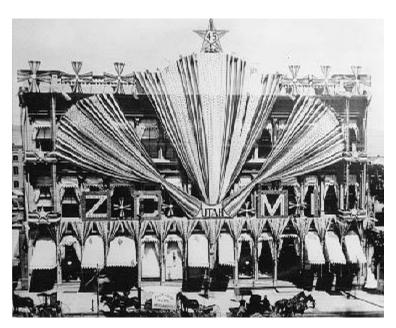
Utahns began petitioning Congress for admission to the Union in 1849 but did not achieve statehood until 1896. During most of Utah's territorial years federally appointed men, all non-Mormons except for Brigham Young, served as territorial governors. They repeatedly clashed with the Mormon-dominated legislature. While the number of non-Mormons living in Utah was less than 10 percent, they lived mostly in the cities or in mining and railroad towns. There were several reasons the non-Mormon minority felt fearful of Mormon control: polygamy, church and state issues, and lack of free public schools.

Polygamy still held the country's attention. Congress passed the Anti-bigamy Act (1862), but it was generally not enforced. Finally, in 1887 the Edmunds-Tucker Act brought an end to the LDS church corporation and threatened the survival of all Mormon institutions. Additionally, women,

who had the vote under territorial law, did not have the right to vote by this act. Clearly something dramatic had to be done. In September 1890 Mormon church president Wilford Woodruff issued the Manifesto. It stated that

Mormons no longer accepted polygamy.

In 1891, the Democratic and Republican political parties were organized in Utah. With each of these steps, Utah moved closer to becoming a state. Careful teamwork by Mormons and non-Mormons in Washington, D.C., and positive statements by the Utah Commission led to the passage of the Enabling Act. Signed by President Grover Cleveland, this bill allowed



Statehood Day bunting on front of ZCMI, Salt Lake City, Utah, Statehood day celebration.

Utahns to hold a constitutional convention and apply for admission to the Union. That convention was held in 1895. On January 4, 1896, Utah became the 45th state. Utah women campaigned successfully for the return of their right to vote. They received a full equal rights provision in the new state constitution.

Adjustment

The old ways of life died hard. In the period between 1896 and 1917, Utah adjusted its economic, social, and political life to that of the rest of America. State government and the codification of Utah law began, and the state capitol was built. The federal government set aside lands for national parks, monuments, and forests.

The percentage of Mormons in the total population declined to 68 percent as the state grew. Mining and heavy industry drew many ethnic groups to Utah. The Greeks, Japanese, Hispanics, African Americans, Chinese, and others changed the social and cultural life of the state. This was especially true of Carbon, Salt Lake, and Weber counties.

Less than a third of the people worked on farms, although the total area farmed increased. Utah continued to pioneer in dry farming techniques, while irrigation allowed more land to be farmed. Sheep and cattle competed for range lands, and the railroad centers at Ogden and Salt Lake City helped the livestock processing industry.



A fortune of silver had been taken from Utah mines in the nineteenth century. In the early twentieth century the big story was the development of copper mining. Daniel C. Jackling made open-pit mining of low grade ore profitable. The expansion of the railroad made coal mining profitable. Mine owners built company towns in Carbon County for coal workers. Many of these workers

Copper Mining, Bingham Canyon

were recent immigrants to America.

At times conflicts occurred between the workers and management in the mines. At Scofield in 1900, 200 men were killed by an explosion in the Winter Quarters Mine. This catastrophe signaled the end of an era. Never again would miners be as willing to endure dangerous working conditions for so little pay. The state passed important laws to benefit the workers and their families. Many workers joined unions to help them deal with management problems.



Coal mining

Modern cities emerged quickly as electricity, telephones, and automobiles became more common. The building of business blocks, power plants, highways, and housing for average citizens contributed to city development. Population continued to grow and to concentrate along the Wasatch Front in Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, and Utah counties.

In 1905 the opening of large portions of the Uintah Indian Reservation to white settlement led to the founding of more than a dozen towns in the Uinta Basin. Resentful Utes reacted to this betrayal by attempting an alliance with Sioux Indians. Their trek to South Dakota in 1906-1908 ended in failure and a deep sense of loss. In San Juan County, conflicts were centered on grazing rights to public lands. This led to the so-called Posey War of 1923.

San Juan County made concessions to Indian grazing rights, and after that the "Indian problem" lay quietly buried on the reservation until mid-century. Utah's American Indian peoples have

successfully fought for greater control of tribal lands by political awareness and the ability to exercise their legal rights.

War and Depression

Beginning with World War I, events in Utah were much like the rest of the nation. Utah made its contribution to the war effort, and its businesses enjoyed temporary prosperity. Union activity increased, particularly in the coal and copper industries. In 1933 the United Mine Workers of America became very important in the Carbon County coal mines.

The Great Depression of the 1930s hit Utah especially hard. Unemployment was already widespread in mining and agriculture, and conditions worsened for a number of reasons. Severe droughts hit farmers hard in 1931 and 1934. High transportation cost limited the expansion of manufacturing. The New Deal of 1933-1939 helped Utah out of the depression. Programs like Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) came to Utah with a variety of projects to help ease unemployment. Recovery slowly came to Utah, as it did the rest of the nation.



Cleaning weeds along the Tooele army depot bomb storage

World War II started for America on December 7, 1941, with the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Because of the war there came an increase demand for food production that helped Utah's economy. Important military installations, the Geneva steel plant, and other war-related industries brought new prosperity to the state. Utah had several prisoner of war camps. Topaz, a relocation

camp for Americans of Japanese ancestry was located 10 miles northwest of Delta. During its operation over 8,000 American citizens and resident aliens lived at this camp.

Utah Today

In the decades following World War II, Utah has continued to grow. Cultural institutions like the Utah Symphony, Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Utah Opera Company, Ballet West, and Utah Festival Opera (Logan), Utah Shakespearean Festival (Cedar City) have a solid reputation both locally and nationally. Utah's research centers continue to lead in a variety of scientific and medical innovations.

Utah is a leader in information technology. It is home to numerous high tech companies including lomega and Novell. Even after WordPerfect moved to Canada and Novell laid off several hundred workers, programmers, engineers and executives reinvested their severance money in new companies that have hastened the growth of Utah's high tech industry.

The announcement in 1996 that Salt Lake City would host the 2002 Winter Olympics spurred the construction of new sports venues and facilities. In 1998 Scarborough Research Corp. stated that Salt Lake City had more personal computers per household than any other city in the United States.

Tourism has become a major economic factor year round with the development of Utah's ski industry, national parks, and recreation areas such as Lake Powell and the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument created in 1996. Southwestern Utah is booming, due to its warm climate which is attractive to older people.

Another growing multimillion dollar industry in Utah is that film and television production. Popular television shows produced in Utah include "Touched by an Angel." Motion pictures filmed in Utah include: 2001: A Space Odyssey (1968), Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (1969), Footloose (1984), Thelma and Louis (1991), Forrest Gump (1994), Independence Day (1996) and The Wild Wild West (1999).

A major issue in Utah is that of transportation. An evergrowing population along the Wasatch front has spurred the reconstruction of freeway system (I-15 mainly), and construction of light rail (Provo-Salt Lake City) and TRAX.

Nevertheless, as a modern state, Utah faces the same kinds of problems that face other states: adequate funding for all levels of education and other public needs, environmental protection, increased opportunities for women and minorities, preservation of the historic and cultural

heritage, continuing economic development of rural areas, conservation of natural resources and areas of natural beauty, and urban renewal. How these and future challenges are met will fill tomorrow's history books.

Glossary:

Anasazi: meaning the ancient ones.

Athapaskan: group of related American Indian languages.

Domesticated: to train to live and be of use to humans.

Immigrants: a person who leaves one country to live in another.

Minority: a small group of people that is different from the larger group.

Nomadic: wander from place to place.

Paleoindians: paleo meaning "long ago".

Polygamy: having more than one husband or one wife at the same time.

Precipitation: rainfall

TRAX : street railroad for Salt Lake City.

Wickiups: Piaute house.

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Supplementary Reading

Some of the best historical information that has been written appears in the Utah Historical Quarterly. The Historical Society also publishes Beehive History, and Utah Preservation Magazine.

All photographs from the Utah State Historical Society Photograph Collection.

For additional information:

E-mail: Utah History Information Center